

CLASSIFICATION ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

REPORT

TOPIC 1. Tank Units in Podborany2. Units and Military Installations in Brno

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

6 May 1955

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REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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Tank Units in Podborany

1. Prior to the summer of 1954, the barracks installation southwest of Podborany and about 300 meters west of the railroad station was occupied by tank units. In 1952, tanks were for the first time seen in the installation. In March 1954, about 15 tanks with long-barreled guns with muzzle brake and guns on four-wheel chassis which were towed by prime movers participated in a night exercise. Soldiers stationed in the installation wore black epaulets with tank insignia. One prime mover but no guns were seen in the Panzer Kaserne. The installation was occupied by an estimated 500 to 700 soldiers. In 1954, construction work was under way in the installation. A large number of wooden cantonment buildings had been completed. one section of the installation quartered soldiers who were exclusively employed in construction work. 1

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Units and Military Installations in Brno

2. In June 1955, a headquarters was determined in the northwest portion of Brno. The entrance of the building was guarded by two sentries wearing steel helmets and army uniform with red epaulets. The building was located on the west side of the ul. Leninova, just north of ul. Zahradnikova. Sedans, officers and enlisted personnel were repeatedly seen there.

a corps headquarters was stationed in the building and the motor vehicles of this headquarters were quartered in the former Artillerie Kaserne on the east side of ul. Eisenhowerova.

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cantonment buildings on the north side of ul. Strelecka and west of ul. Chodska were occupied by armored elements in early 1952.²

3. In the summer of 1953, guns with pneumatic tires and rows of trucks were repeatedly observed in the area of the former Artilleriekaserne on either side of ul. Stankova. The guns had no muzzle brakes and an estimated caliber of 100 mm. In early 1953, a stadium was located east of the former Artillerie Kaserne. No military training was observed in this area.³
4. Prior to 28 September 1953, the former Arbeitsamt (labor office) east of the prison on the north side of Cejl No 73, was occupied by a military unit of about battalion strength. Between the prison and the military installation was a dead end road. Soldiers observed in the yard of the military installation wore red epaulets and engaged in infantry training. Little vehicular traffic was observed.⁴
5. In July 1953, uniformed members of the security service were seen in the former Gendarmerie Kaserne at the intersection of ul. Bratislavská and ul. Prichni. A sentry with dark-red cap band was seen in front of the kaserne. Detention rooms were located in the basement of the installation. [redacted] this building was guarded by StB members.⁵

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1. [redacted] Comment. The report again confirms the occupation of Podborany [redacted] mech unit equipped with tanks. The information that the tanks [redacted] barreled guns with muzzle brakes tends to indicate that they were JS tanks and, therefore, that the installation was occupied by a Hv Tank SP Regt of a mechanized or tank division.
2. [redacted] Comment. The headquarters building is presumably occupied by the Hq IV Army Corps.
3. [redacted] Comment. The occupation of the installation with artillery is again confirmed.
4. [redacted] Comment. The former labor office as military installation is reported for the first time.
5. [redacted] Comment. This is the first information on the occupation of this installation. It is believed that the installation quartered a unit of the Interior Guard (VS).

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